



TITLE: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the Efficacy of Buddy Taping Versus Reduction and Casting for Non-operative Management of Closed Fifth Metacarpal Neck Fractures

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ABSTRACT

A closed fifth metacarpal neck fracture is a frequently encountered upper limb fracture that occurs when the bone breaks right below the little finger's knuckle. At the moment, there is no agreement on the best way to treat these fractures. This research seeks to look at the efficacy of buddy taping versus reduction and casting for non-operative management of uncomplicated closed fifth metacarpal neck fractures. A systematic review of PubMed, Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online (MEDLINE), PubMed Central (PMC), and the Cochrane Library databases was carried out using the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines to find relevant studies about buddy taping versus reduction and casting for non-operative management. Disabilities of the arm, shoulder, and hand (DASH) score; satisfaction score; visual analog scale (VAS); range of motion (ROM); strength; and other outcomes were reported in this study. We used Review Manager 5.4 (The Cochrane Collaboration, London, UK) for the meta-analysis. Seven trials with a total of 454 patients were considered in the review and four in the quantitative analysis. All the included studies were randomized controlled trials (RCTs).

and strength. The DASH score and satisfaction score didn't show any significant difference. Thus, we recommend the use of buddy taping rather than plaster and immobilization for the management of uncomplicated closed fifth metacarpal neck fractures.

Our study concluded that buddy taping was effective for improving pain, range of motion,



BIOGRAPHY (upto 200 words)

Mohamed Ali Babiker Mohamed plastic surgery registrar at University Hospitals Plymouth. I received Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery from university of Khartoum faculty of medicine and a membership from the royal College of surgeons of Edinburgh. Currently working with the Plastic and Reconstructive surgery department at University Hospitals Plymouth. I'm interested in skin oncology, microsurgery and hand surgery.



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